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FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3689
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RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 2933
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY 5490
RUEHMK/AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY 3165
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 4189
RUEHTU/AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY 8861
RUEHCL/AMCONSUL CASABLANCA PRIORITY 1666
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 0973
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0522

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DEPT FOR NEA/MAG, IO

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [MO](#) [PBTS](#) [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [PINR](#)
SUBJECT: WESTERN SAHARA: GOM WILL PROCEED WITH OHCHR VISIT
DESPITE MISGIVINGS

REF: RABAT 671

¶1. (SBU) MFA Director of UN and International Affairs Nasser Bourita told Polcouns May 10 that the May 15 visit of the Office of the High Commission for Human Rights (OHCHR) was going forward, and the program had been prepared. The delegation, which would not include Louise Arbour, would arrive in Rabat May 15 for a meeting with MFA Secretary General Omar Hilale. They would proceed from Rabat to Laayoune (Western Sahara), where they would spend the bulk of their time.

¶2. (SBU) Bourita said the GOM still had concerns about the delegation's stop in Algeria, which he understood was only half a day and even then lacked a "precise program." Reiterating reftel concerns, Bourita said this was not enough time to take up human rights issues with the GOA. The GOM was preparing a dossier on violations of human rights that took place on Algerian territory, and the commission needs time to investigate the Moroccan claims, he insisted. All in all, the commission's visit was "very imbalanced, and it is a bad start." Morocco, nevertheless, did not wish a to make "a bid deal" out of it, but he hoped that countries like the US that support the mission would work to ensure that Morocco's concerns were taken seriously and Morocco's charges were properly addressed.

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